



AMERICAN SIKH COUNCIL

VOICE OF SIKHS IN AMERICA

(Formerly, World Sikh Council – America Region)

WWW.AMERICANSIKHCOUNCIL.ORG

888-340-1702 | contact@AmericanSikhCouncil.org

MEMBER GURDWARAS:

1. Gurdwara Singh Sabha, Opelika, AL
2. Guru Nanak Sikh Mission, Livingston, CA
3. Gurdwara Sahib Fremont, CA
4. Pacific Coast Khalsa Diwan Society, Stockton CA
5. Sikh Gurdwara Riverside, Riverside, CA
6. Sikh Gurdwara of LA, North Hollywood, CA
7. Sikh Gurdwara Sahib, San Jose, CA
8. Gurdwara Guru Angad Darbar, Bakersfield, CA
9. Colorado Singh Sabha, Denver, CO
10. Connecticut Sikh Assoc, Southington, CT
11. Guru Tegh Bahadur Foundation, Norwalk, CT
12. Sikh Society of Florida Southwest Ranches, FL
13. Sikh Society of Central Florida Inc., Oviedo, FL
14. Guru Nanak Darbar Religious Society Augusta GA
15. Guru Singh Sabha of Augusta, Augusta, GA
16. Sikh Study Circle of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA
17. Sikh Religious Society of Chicago, Palatine, IL
18. Sikh Society of South, New Orleans, LA
19. New England Sikh Study Circle, Boston, MA
20. Singh Sabha of Michigan, Canton, MI
21. Sikh Gurdwara of Michigan Rochester Hills MI
22. Sikh Society of Michigan, Madison Heights, MI
23. Downriver Gurdwara Sahib, Brownstown, MI
24. Sikh Study Circle of St. Louis, St. Peters, MO
25. Guru Nanak Foundation of Jackson, MS
26. Sikh Gurdwara of North Carolina, Durham, NC
27. Sikh Heritage Society of Greater Charlotte, Charlotte, NC
28. Sikh Sabha of Upper Valley, Hanover, NH
29. Garden State Sikh Association, Bridgewater, NJ
30. Guru Nanak Sikh Society of Delaware Valley, Sewell, NJ
31. Siri Guru Singh Sabha, Glenrock, NJ
32. Sikh Sabha of New Jersey, Lawrenceville, NJ
33. Gurdwara Baba Deep Singh, Las Vegas, NV
34. Sikh Cultural Society Inc., Richmond Hills, NY
35. Sikh Cultural & Edu. Society of Western NY, Buffalo, NY
36. Sikh Foundation of Syracuse, Liverpool, NY
37. Guru Nanak Foundation of Greater Cleveland, Richfield, OH
38. Guru Gobind Singh Sikh Society, Bedford, OH
39. Guru Nanak Rel. Soc. of Central Ohio Columbus, OH
40. Sikh Heritage Society of Mahoning Valley, Canfield, OH
41. Sikh Sadh Sangat, Easton, PA
42. Philadelphia Sikh Society, Millbourne, PA
43. Tristate Sikh Cultural Society, Monroeville, PA
44. Singh Sabha of South Carolina, Lexington, SC
45. Mid-South Sikh Sabha, Memphis, TN
46. Sikh Center of Gulf Coast, Houston, TX
47. Siri Guru Singh Sabha, Richardson, TX
48. Sikh Gurdwara of North Texas, Garland, TX
49. Sikh Association of Central Virginia, VA
50. Guru Nanak Foundation of Tidewater Chesapeake VA
51. Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Fairfax, VA
52. Sikh Religious Society of Wisconsin Brookfield WI

OTHER SIKH INSTITUTIONS:

1. Siri Guru Granth Sahib Found., Anaheim, CA
2. Sikh Speakers Network Inc., Atlanta, GA
3. Sikhs Serving America, Topeka, KS
4. Sikh Heritage Foundation, Long Island, NY
5. Sikh Youth Federation of North America, White Plains, NY
6. Sikh Educational & Religious Foundation, Dublin, OH
7. Sikh Youth Federation of USA, Toledo, OH
8. Academy of Guru Granth Studies, Arlington, TX

Dr. Tom Adams

State Board of Education
1430 N Street, Room 3207
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Dr. Adams,

The American Sikh Council (ASC) formerly known as World Sikh Council – America Region (WSC-AR) is a national umbrella organization consisting of over 60 gurdwaras and Sikh institutions. The ASC board/council is nominated by the gurdwaras/institutions to represent their interest accurately at the national and international level, particularly about our Faith and heritage.

It has come to the attention of the American Sikh Council, that there is an effort underway to revise some educational material that is related to the Sikh Faith which directly affects the community. Furthermore based on the public comments (Attachment 4 History–Social Science SMC December 18-19, 2014), it is clear that some non-Sikh (Hindu) organizations with vested interests are trying to redefine our faith values, belittle our contributions and dilute our history. These impingements are hard to overlook and ignore.

California has always been a leader of the ‘Spirit of America and its Constitution’ and applying it to its citizens. From the early days of the Sikh settlers in California they have been a fabric and key contributors to the State’s cultural and diverse identity. One such notable citizen was Mr. Dalip Singh Saund the first Congressman of Sikh origin was from Punjab.

The unique history and contributions of Sikhs have been noted and recorded throughout history all over the World. It is an honor to be have one of the largest communities of Sikhs in the United States, be residents of California.

The American Sikh Council is concerned that the input required from Sikhs living in the State is currently not being considered in the revisions. We have formulated a team working to review and provide feedback to you directly so that you may consider and deliberate on this effort. Sikhs would like the precise information to be contained in educational materials and as such have gathered a representative number of informed experts for this purpose. We will make them available so that efforts are fruitful and lasting to provide the correct information for other citizens to be allowed to get the facts regarding the Sikh Faith in perspective, and with alignment from the Sikh community.

AMERICAN SIKH COUNCIL | P.O. Box 3635, COLUMBUS, OH 43210, USA

American Sikh Council is a representative body of Sikh Institutions of America. It is the representative and elected body of Sikh Gurdwaras (Sikh places of prayer) and institutions that meet its criteria for membership. ASC works to promote Sikh interests at the national and international level focusing on issues of advocacy, education, and well-being of humankind.



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Please consider our offer of material review, and kindly accept our input regarding proposed changes into your processes. It is important that the fine education received by all Californians is accurate and meeting the future needs of a strong and united America.

Please feel free to contact the undersigned, to access all sections that have been reviewed already and to provide any additional information you may require.

Looking forward to partnering with the Board of Education in empowering students across the great state of California.

Respectfully,

Kavneet Singh
Secretary General
American Sikh Council (ASC)
(Formerly World Sikh Council - America Region)
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